

Extract of interview with Michael Lowry TD on Tipp FM with Allison Hyland on November 6, 2012.  
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Interviewer, Allison Hyland: Michael, we are running out of time. I just want to ask for your comment on the front of the Examiner today.

The land you deemed worthless, Conor Ryan the investigative correspondent is claiming it could be worth €6.7m

Michael Lowry: Well, if horses could fly. Last week he wrote it was worth €10m. It reduced this week to €6.5m. I have already answered the question.

This journalist is inconsistent and he has an exaggerated theory.

When he contacted me yesterday I said if I got an offer anything like that I would gladly accept it. Give me the proof of funds, we can draw up the legals and conclude the deal. He is operating on the basis of theory.

The land as it stands at the moment, last week he also wrote that it was included in a new development plan. He was incorrect and factually wrong. It was not included. The bottom line is this field is landlocked it has never given us any rental income. It is overgrown and it can never be accessed only from the M6 motorway. The council are reviewing a plan for the next five years they haven't included it. Maybe this land will be worth money, and I certainly hope that it will, and my partner in that land we certainly hope that in time it will return a dividend but as it stands at the moment it is absolutely useless and valueless because it is not zoned. It is not included or incorporated in the present zoning plan that the council have. So it means at the minimum we will have to wait is another six years so lets see what it turns out to.

Allison Hyland: Conor Ryan is like a dog with a bone with this story do you think he has a bit of a vendetta against you?

Michael Lowry: Journalists can follow articles and stories but what I have to say is that he has been erratic and inconsistent. First of all he said it was included in the current rezoning and he was factually incorrect. Then he said last week it was worth €10m, he was factually incorrect. Today he is saying it is worth €6.5m and he is factually incorrect. So you would expect journalists to get it right. The third thing I would say is today is he said he asked me, he contacted me yesterday for comment and he writes in the article this morning that I made no contact with him. In fact I sent him a text. And I don't that is a proper standard of journalism.